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Identical letters dated 30 July 2000 from the Permanent Representative of Iraq to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General and to the President of the Security Council

On instructions from my Government, I have the honour to transmit to you herewith a letter dated 27 July 2000 from Mr. Mohammed Said Al-Sahaf, Minister for Foreign Affairs of Iraq. The Minister calls attention to the ongoing wanton aggression against Iraq by United States and British aircraft in the unlawful no-flight zones and to the fact that in the period from 17 to 23 July 2000 they carried out 132 sorties, 62 of them from Saudi Arabia, 28 from Kuwait and 42 from Turkey. He goes on to urge the Security Council to meet its responsibilities with respect to the maintenance of international peace and security by intervening with the governments of the United States and the United Kingdom and with the countries that provide the logistic support for this aggression, namely Saudi Arabia, Kuwait and Turkey, with a view to inducing them to halt, end and desist from any resumption of their constant and unwarranted aggression against an independent, sovereign State.

I should be grateful if you would have the present letter and its annex circulated as a document of the Security Council.

(*Signed*) Saeed H. **Hasan**
Ambassador
Permanent Representative

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Annex to the identical letters dated 30 July 2000 from the Permanent Representative of Iraq to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General and to the President of the Security Council

I should like to inform you that United States and British warplanes based in Saudi Arabia, Kuwait and Turkey have continued to violate the airspace of the Republic of Iraq. They carried out 132 sorties in the period from 17 to 23 July 2000, 62 of them from Saudi Arabia, 28 from Kuwait and 42 from Turkey, as shown hereunder.

1. In the northern region 42 sorties were flown at speeds of 720 to 780 kilometres per hour and at altitudes of 6,000 to 12,000 metres, as follows:

(a) At 1005 hours on 18 July 2000, United States and British F-15, F-16, Tornado and EA-6B aircraft coming from Turkish territory penetrated Iraq's airspace in the northern region. They carried out 16 missions from Turkish territory, were supported by an AWACS command and control aircraft operating inside Turkish airspace and overflew the Dohuk, Amadiyah, Tall Afar, Mosul, Zakho and Irbil areas. Our air defences, acting in self-defence, engaged the aircraft and, at 1230 hours, drove them off.

(b) At 1020 hours on 19 July 2000, United States and British F-15, F-16, Tornado and EA-6B aircraft coming from Turkish territory penetrated Iraq's airspace in the northern region. They carried out 10 missions from Turkish territory, were supported by an AWACS command and control aircraft operating inside Turkish airspace and overflew the Dohuk, Amadiyah, Aqrah, Baibo, Zakho and Irbil areas. Our air defences, acting in self-defence, engaged the aircraft and, at 1325 hours, drove them off.

(c) At 1017 hours on 20 July 2000, United States and British F-15, Tornado and EA-6B aircraft coming from Turkish territory penetrated Iraq's airspace in the northern region. They carried out 16 missions from Turkish territory, were supported by an AWACS command and control aircraft operating inside Turkish airspace and overflew the Dohuk, Aqrah, Zakho, Rawanduz, Dokan and Irbil areas. Our air defences, acting in self-defence, engaged the aircraft and, at 1315 hours, drove them off.

2. In the southern region 90 sorties were flown at speeds of 720 to 780 kilometres per hour and at altitudes of 9,000 to 13,000 metres, as follows:

(a) At 0832 hours on 17 July 2000, United States and British F-15, Tornado and EA-6B aircraft coming from Saudi and Kuwaiti territory penetrated Iraq's airspace in the southern region. They carried out 12 missions, 10 of them from Saudi territory with the support of an AWACS command and control aircraft operating inside Saudi airspace and two from Kuwaiti territory with the support of an E-2C command and control aircraft operating inside Kuwaiti airspace. They overflew the Samawah, Nasiriyah, Salman, Artawi, Taqtaqanah, Shinafiyah, Shatrah, Lasaf and Jalibah areas. Our air defences, acting in self-defence, engaged the aircraft and, at 0915 hours, drove them off.

(b) At 0840 hours on 18 July 2000, United States and British F-15 aircraft coming from Saudi and Kuwaiti territory penetrated Iraq's airspace in the southern

region. They carried out four missions, two of them from Saudi territory with the support of an AWACS command and control aircraft operating inside Saudi airspace and two from Kuwaiti territory with the support of an E-2C command and control aircraft operating inside Kuwaiti airspace. They overflew the Atrawi, Ahfar and Ma'aniyah areas. Our air defences, acting in self-defence, engaged the aircraft and, at 0950 hours, drove them off.

(c) At 0835 hours on 20 July 2000, United States and British F-15, Tornado and EA-6B aircraft coming from Saudi and Kuwaiti territory penetrated Iraq's airspace in the southern region. They carried out 14 missions, 10 of them from Saudi territory with the support of an AWACS command and control aircraft operating inside Saudi airspace and four from Kuwaiti territory with the support of an E-2C command and control aircraft operating inside Kuwaiti airspace. They overflew the Salman, Amarah, Kut, Diwaniyah, Nu'maniyah, Qurnah, Lasaf, Najaf, Jalibah, Qal'at Sukkar, Taqtaqanah, Nasiriyah, Samawah, Basrah, Shinafiyah, Rumaythah and Ashbajah areas. Our air defences, acting in self-defence, engaged the aircraft and, at 0930 hours, drove them off.

(d) At 0850 hours on 21 July 2000, United States and British F-14, F-15, Tornado and EA-6B aircraft coming from Saudi and Kuwaiti territory penetrated Iraq's airspace in the southern region. They carried out 22 missions, 14 of them from Saudi territory with the support of an AWACS command and control aircraft operating inside Saudi airspace and eight from Kuwaiti territory with the support of an E-2C command and control aircraft operating inside Kuwaiti airspace. They overflew the Samawah, Nasiriyah, Qal'at Sukkar, Shinafiyah, Lasaf, Basrah, Nukhayb, Najaf, Diwaniyah, Qal'at Salih, Qurnah and Amarah areas. Our air defences, acting in self-defence, engaged the aircraft and, at 1005 hours, drove them off.

(e) At 0925 hours on 22 July 2000, United States and British F-14, F-15, F-16, F-18 and EA-6B aircraft coming from Saudi and Kuwaiti territory penetrated Iraq's airspace in the southern region. They carried out 22 missions, 14 of them from Saudi territory with the support of an AWACS command and control aircraft operating inside Saudi airspace and eight from Kuwaiti territory with the support of an E-2C command and control aircraft operating inside Kuwaiti airspace. They overflew the Samawah, Nasiriyah, Jalibah, Najaf, Hayy, Rifa'i and Basrah areas. Our air defences, acting in self-defence, engaged the aircraft and, at 1040 hours, drove them off.

(f) At 1657 hours on 23 July 2000, United States and British F-15, F-16, Tornado and EA-6B aircraft coming from Saudi and Kuwaiti territory penetrated Iraq's airspace in the southern region. They carried out 16 missions, 12 of them from Saudi territory with the support of an AWACS command and control aircraft operating inside Saudi airspace and four from Kuwaiti territory with the support of an E-2C command and control aircraft operating inside Kuwaiti airspace. They overflew the Samawah, Nasiriyah, Qurnah, Qal'at Sukkar, Hayy South, Taqtaqanah, Ashbajah, Basrah and Amarah areas. Our air defences, acting in self-defence, engaged the aircraft and, at 1810 hours, drove them off.

This aggression illustrates the bellicose attitude being maintained by the United States of America and the United Kingdom towards Iraq. Since 1992, it has become a fixed policy aimed at undermining the country's sovereignty, independence and territorial integrity and at the systematic and concerted

destruction of Iraqi lives, infrastructure and civilian installations. It is a policy that has been affirmed in successive statements made by United States and British officials defending the measures being taken to enforce the no-flight zones.

The Government of Iraq categorically rejects the two so-called no-flight zones, which were imposed by unilateral decision of the United States of America and the United Kingdom and lack any legal basis. Iraq rejects all the consequences of this illegal decision and, in particular, the flimsy excuses and pretexts used by these countries in an attempt to justify their military aggression against our country.

The logistic support provided by Saudi Arabia, Kuwait and Turkey to the Americans and the British makes these countries key partners in the aggression being committed against Iraq, so that they bear international responsibility for actions that are deleterious to the people of Iraq.

The Government of Iraq, condemning these wanton acts of aggression, urges the Security Council to perform its assigned duties with respect to the maintenance of international peace and security by intervening with the governments of the countries in question with a view to inducing them to halt, end and desist from any resumption of their constant and unwarranted aggression against an independent, sovereign State.

(*Signed*) Mohammed Said **Al-Sahaf**
Minister for Foreign Affairs of the Republic of Iraq